

DECLARATION FOR THE RECORD OF DECISION

SITE NAME AND LOCATION

Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB),
Landfill-23 (Site LF-023)
Plattsburgh, New York

STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE

This Record of Decision (ROD) presents a selected remedial action for Operable Unit Two, consisting of groundwater, surface water, and sediment at Landfill LF-023 on Plattsburgh AFB in Plattsburgh, New York. This document was developed in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), and to the extent practicable, by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). This decision is based on the Administrative Record for this site, a copy of which is located at Plattsburgh AFB.

The remedy has been selected by the U.S. Air Force (USAF) in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) with the concurrence of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), pursuant to a Federal Facilities Agreement among the parties under Section 120 of CERCLA.

ASSESSMENT OF THE SITE

Releases of hazardous substances from this site present no imminent or substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment. Groundwater is not presently used as a residential water supply source downgradient of LF-023. However, groundwater has been degraded by site contaminants and, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this ROD, represents a potential risk to public health in the future.

DESCRIPTION OF THE REMEDY

This Operable Unit is the second and final Operable Unit for which action has been taken at this site. The first Operable Unit at this site is the contaminant source, which was addressed by the installation of a multi-layer, low-permeability cap meeting the requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 360. Further degradation of groundwater has been effectively eliminated by the implementation of this source control remedy, the ROD for which received NYSDEC concurrence on 28 Sep 92 and was signed on 30 Sep 92.

The second Operable Unit, consists of groundwater, surface water, and sediment contamination present as a result of LF-023. Since results of the Baseline Risk Assessment indicate that no



In the fall of 1992, a supplemental investigation was conducted to fill in the remaining data gaps. The supplemental data confirmed the presence of an off-base source for fuel-related organics detected at MW-23-008 during the RI.

In 1992, a Feasibility Study (FS) was conducted in order to select a remedy to control the source of contamination (Operable Unit One) at LF-023. The selected remedy included the installation of a multilayer, low-permeability cap meeting the requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 360.

This remedy has effectively eliminated further contamination of groundwater resources, will prevent human contact with waste materials, and has removed the waste from contact with environmental receptors. A Record of Decision for Operable Unit One was signed on September 30, 1992.

A second Feasibility Study was conducted in 1993, to address contamination (attributable to LF-023) currently present in groundwater, surface water, and sediments (Operable Unit Two). Several remedial alternatives were developed and screened, and a preferred alternative selected by Plattsburgh AFB, in conjunction with USEPA and NYSDEC. This second Operable Unit is the subject of this Record of Decision.

2.2 Federal Facilities Agreement History

Activities at LF-023 have been conducted as part of the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP), which was established to clean up hazardous waste disposal and spill sites at Department of Defense facilities nationwide. The Installation Restoration Program (IRP) is the U.S. Air Force subcomponent of the DERP. The IRP operates under the scope of CERCLA, as amended by the 1986 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

The IRP at Plattsburgh AFB has included (1) a Preliminary Assessment to evaluate which sites are potentially contaminated, (2) SIs to confirm the presence or absence of contamination at identified sites, and (3) an ongoing RI program at sites confirmed to have contamination. On November 21, 1989, Plattsburgh AFB was included on the National Priorities List (NPL) of hazardous waste sites. It will be remediated according to the Federal Facilities Agreement entered into among the U.S. Air Force, USEPA, and NYSDEC on July 10, 1991.

4.0 SCOPE AND ROLE OF OPERABLE UNIT

As mentioned in Section 2.1, the work elements of remedial action at LF-023 have been divided into two manageable components called "Operable Units (OUs)". These are as follows:

- OU One: Contaminant Source
- OU Two: Contaminated Groundwater, Surface water, and Sediments

In conjunction with USEPA and NYSDEC, and with public input, Plattsburgh AFB has already selected a remedy for OU One. This was done to meet the following remedial action objectives:

- minimize potential future human health and current and future ecological risks associated with exposure to chemicals in surface soil.
- minimize potential human health risks associated with exposure to groundwater by a hypothetical resident living downgradient of LF-023 sometime in the future.
- minimize potential human health risks associated with exposure to fugitive dust emissions by a hypothetical resident living in the vicinity of LF-023.
- minimize infiltration of precipitation to waste materials.
- minimize the potential for contaminant migration from waste material.
- minimize erosion of cover soil.

These objectives have been met by the selected remedy, which included a multi-layer, low-permeability cap meeting the requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 360. The cap was completed in April 1994.

This Record of Decision addresses OU Two, for which the following remedial action objectives (specific to the groundwater medium) have been established:

- Prevent ingestion of water having carcinogens in excess of groundwater Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs) and a total cancer risk of greater than 1×10^{-4} .
- Prevent ingestion of water having noncarcinogens in excess of groundwater ARARs or having a total Hazard Index greater than one.

Control of the source of contamination has been provided under the remedy for OU One. With the implementation of this remedy, continued degradation of groundwater should be prevented, and natural attenuation should occur. The remedial plan for OU Two focuses on the contamination that has already impacted groundwater as a result of LF-023. No remedial action objectives were developed for cleanup of surface water and sediments in OU Two because, based